



NEWS

State of Delaware
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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NORTH CAROLINA MAN ARRESTED FOR OBTAINING FALSE STATE TAX REFUNDS

(Wilmington, DE) – Patrick T. Carter, Director of Revenue announced today that the investigation of an elaborate tax refund scheme conducted jointly between numerous states, including Delaware, and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, has resulted in the indictment of a Greensboro, North Carolina man.

Chika Milford Mokwunye, a/k/a Kelvin McIntyre, age 43, of Greensboro, North Carolina, defrauded 12 state governments, including Delaware, of tax refunds by filing false state income tax returns.

From approximately March 2003 to April 2006, Mokwunye obtained the personal information of several unsuspecting individuals, including names and social security numbers, which he then used to file false tax returns in various states. The false returns were characterized by fictitious W-2 forms that reflected income tax withheld and gave the appearance that the taxpayer had overpaid their income tax and was due a refund.

Several states issued refund checks to Mokwunye under his different and assumed identities.

To avoid detection, Mokwunye had the tax refunds sent to false mailing addresses accessible to him or to privately rented mailboxes, which he obtained using fake identification.

Mokwunye's indictment was returned on September 14, 2006 by a federal grand jury and unsealed after his arrest in North Carolina.

The 24-count indictment charges Mokwunye with mail fraud, wire fraud, fraudulent use of an access device, identity theft and money laundering. He faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, followed by three years of supervised release and a \$250,000.00 fine on each count of mail fraud, wire fraud and money laundering, as well as 15 years and a fine of \$250,000.00 for fraudulent use of an access device.

The investigation is ongoing and it is anticipated that additional warrants will be issued and additional participants in this tax refund scheme will be arrested.

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